

Research Activity Panel Meeting Summary

Gregor M. Cailliet, MLML, RAP Chair

JANUARY 2000 MEETING

Host: USGS @ UCSC

Friday January 14, 2000; 09:00 - 12:00

Attendance: 14 RAP members and 7 guests

INTRODUCTION OF RAP MEMBERS AND GUESTS

In addition to the normal round-table introduction, Andrew DeVogelaere introduced the RAP's new intern, Jennifer Makowka to the RAP.

PRESENTATIONS

USGS El Nino Mapping Results (Bruce Richmond)

A summary of mapping both land and sea areas during and after the recent El Nino was presented in which a shift in the wave angle resulted in shoreline shifts. Information can be found at the Coastal Services Center in Charleston, South Carolina (www.csc.noaa.gov)

USGS Monterey Bay NMS Project and Future Plans (Steve Eittreim)

The bottom profiling and characterization being done by the USGS in the MBNMS was summarized and can be access via the MBNMS web site under Project Reports.

DISCUSSION

Election of RAP Chair

The RAP decided that it would be good to have the RAP chair and SAC position for research coincide and re-elected Greg Cailliet as Chair and Rick Starr as Vice-Chair of the RAP for one additional year. There will be another election in January, 2001 to decide on the RAP chair and to suggest a SAC research member.

Modifications to the RAP web site, meeting schedule and RAP objectives

- Andrew DeVogelaere and Jennifer Makowka presented their ideas for modifications to the RAP web site and received RAP input.
- In addition, we approved the meeting schedule (February 11 at MLML sponsored by Marine Pollution Studies Laboratory; April 14 at CSUMB; May 12 sponsored by the National Undersea Research Program; July 14 at MBARI; August 11 at the Elkhorn Slough Reserve; September 8 at MLML and to include the Annual BBQ; and November 17 at UCSC (date shifted due to Veteran's Day holiday).
- The original RAP objectives were reviewed and suggestions were made for their revision. Andrew will incorporate the comments into the revision and e-mail them to RAP members for comments prior to the next RAP meeting.

Draft MBNMS Kelp Management Plan (Aaron King)

- A presentation was made by Aaron describing the stages involved in producing the MBNMS Kelp Management Plan. These include three stages: 1) background and environmental settings; 2) revision of #1 with draft recommendations; and 3) final draft.
- They have concluded so far that kelp harvesting is not environmentally degrading, but that the impact and possible limits on this activity need to be evaluated.
- The RAP designated a review committee of Chris Harrold, Carrie Pomeroy, Matt Edwards, Deborah Johnston, and Aaron King, who will act as the Chair of this committee.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- Mario Tamburri reviewed the progress on the Sanctuary Currents program.
- Chris Harrold and Andrew DeVogelaere summarized the Point Pinos rocky shore issue and outlined the plans for studies on changes in this ecosystem.
- The tide pool management recommendations approved by the RAP at their November meeting were forwarded to the Sanctuary Advisory Council and were, in turn, endorsed by the SAC.
- The RAP decided to try to have presentations made at a future meeting by the two groups at Hopkins Marine Station and UCSC doing long-term surveys and studies of rocky intertidal assemblages.
- Jennifer Makowka distributed the new MBNMS maps to RAP members present.
- The RAP decided to have a presentation at the next RAP meeting, if possible, on the new Presidential proclamation protecting offshore rocks and islands. Andrew will ask Sam Farr's local representative, Donna Blitzer, if she could arrange such a presentation.